NEWS

From Supervisor Gary Ovitt Fourth District, San Bernardino County

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For information, contact Burt Southard, (909) 387-4866

BOARD PASSES OVITT RESOLUTION TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST SAN FRANCISCO TO STOP DUMPING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT DRUG DEALERS IN SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today passed, a resolution admonishing the City of San Francisco for dumping illegal immigrant drug dealers in a youth halfway house in Yucaipa where they promptly escaped. The same thing occurred last year when four El Salvadoran drug dealers were sent to a San Bernardino County halfway house. San Bernardino law enforcement and probation officials did not find out about either situation until after the fact.

"The County of San Bernardino seeks to recoup all law enforcement and probation costs from the City of San Francisco, initiating a law suit if necessary," said Supervisor Gary Ovitt.

"We are further looking into the practice, by the city's probation department, of not notifying affected jurisdictions with the specifics and particulars of the offenders being sent to our local facilities. The citizens of San Bernardino County should not have to pay for or be burdened with the fallout from this flawed and potentially dangerous policy, Ovitt added."

"This reckless and irresponsible unilateral dumping policy of drug dealers places an unacceptable law enforcement and criminal activity burden on an unsuspecting public who end up paying for it. I wonder if San Francisco taxpayers were aware that they were paying for this and would stand for it if they knew, said Ovitt."

"No one should be placed in harm's way because drug dealers have been placed in residential half-way houses without the neighborhood being aware of the situation." It was incumbent on the part of probation officials, in San Francisco, to inform both half-way house officials and the neighborhood residents of the offenders' status. They did neither," said Ovitt.

Eight Honduran juveniles who had been convicted of dealing drugs in San Francisco were sent within the past few weeks to Silverlake youth services group homes in Southern California,

where one month's placement costs \$7,000 per youth. Within 10 days of being sent to the group homes, all eight youths fled.

The following Resolution was approved by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today. It seeks to recover law enforcement and probation costs as well as require notification of impending actions and a catalogue of previous ones. Its provisions include:

WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco has sustained the reckless and irresponsible practice of exporting potentially dangerous illegal alien drug dealers to the County of San Bernardino for placement in private group homes without any notice to the San Bernardino County Probation Department as required by law, and

WHEREAS, such practice not only poses a significant risk to the health, safety and welfare of the good citizens of this County but arguably provides asylum to illegal aliens by shielding them from federal law and authorities, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino is vigorously opposed to the practice of protecting dangerous illegal aliens from federal law enforcement and is especially opposed to being considered a "sanctuary" for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County that appropriate county and law enforcement officials be made aware of the identities of those persons being placed within the County in order that law enforcement be informed for the safety of the public, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino is requesting the history of past placements, notification of future placements, and is also exploring the option of recouping all law enforcement and probation costs from the City and County of San Francisco.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board resolves as follows:

- 1. That the City and County of San Francisco immediately cease and desist from placing any illegal aliens, juvenile or adult, in the County of San Bernardino.
- 2. That the City and County of San Francisco comply with California Welfare and Institutions Code section 740 and provide the required notice to the County Probation Department prior to placement of any minor adjudged to be a ward of the Court.

Ovitt said, "We will monitor adherence to our Resolution to make sure the City of San Francisco follows to the letter, the requirements and provisions of its specifics."